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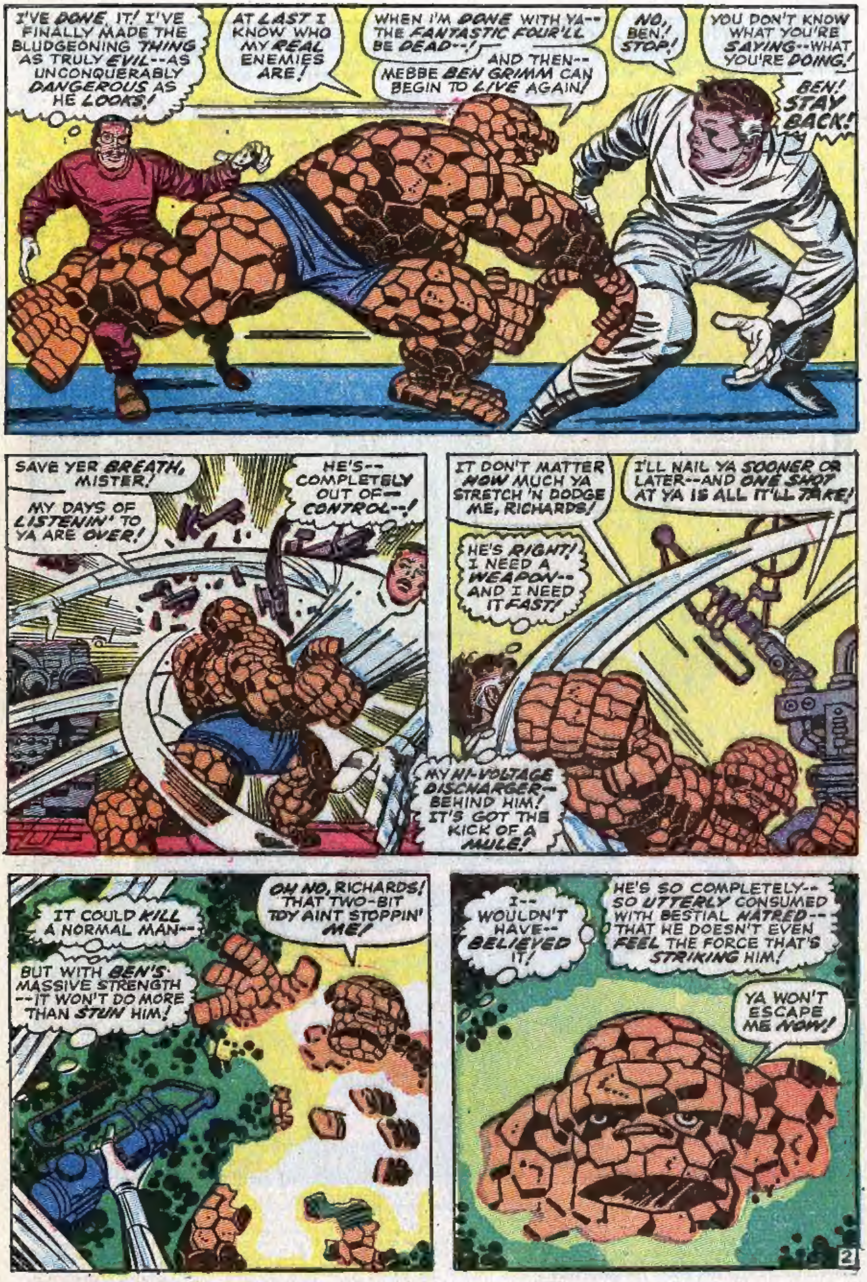
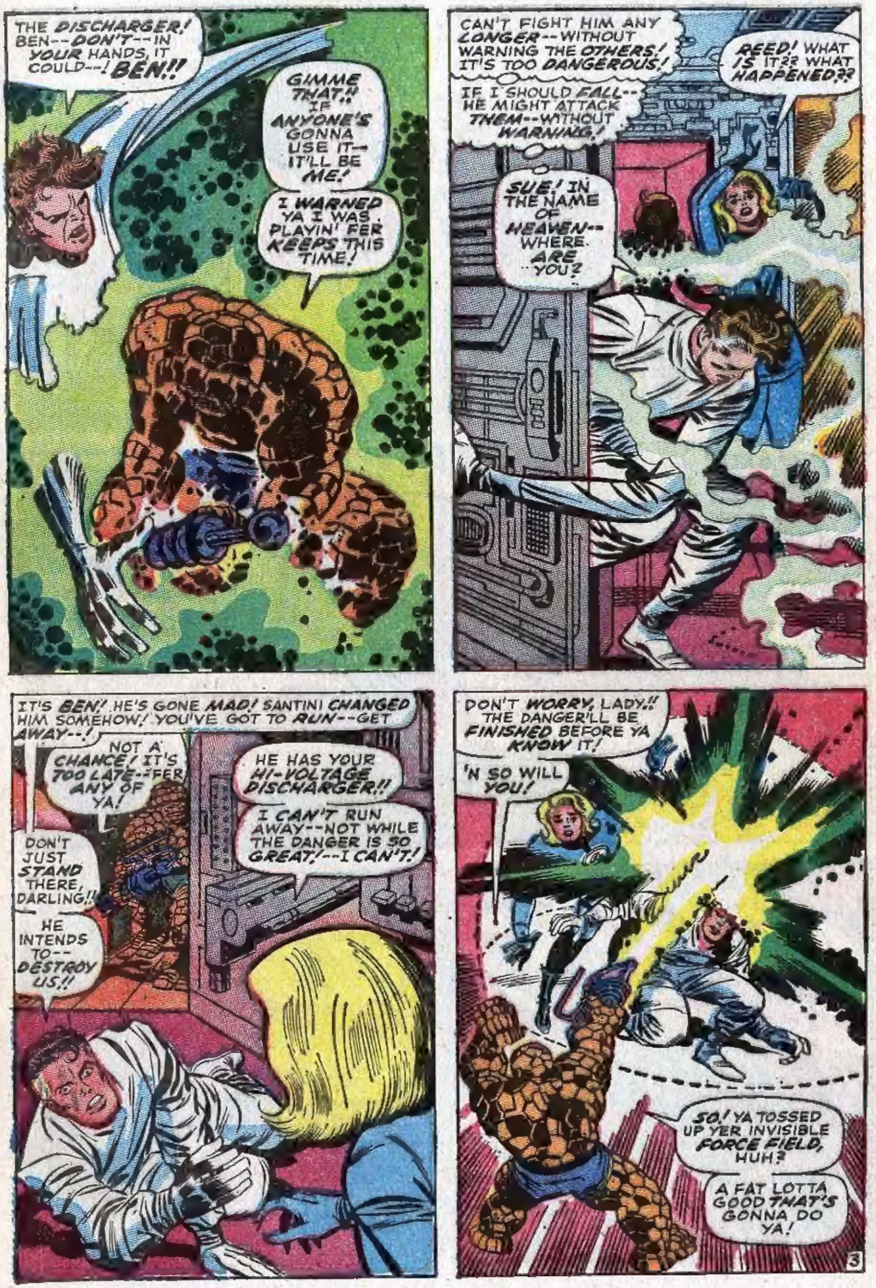


I'VE DONE IT! I'VE FINALLY MADE THE BLUDGEONING THING AS TRULY EVIL--AS UNCONQUERABLY DANGEROUS AS HE LOOKS!
AT LAST I KNOW WHO MY REAL ENEMIES ARE!
WHEN I'M DONE WITH YA--THE FANTASTIC FOUR'LL BE DEAD--!
AND THEN--MEBBE BEN GRIMM CAN BEGIN TO LIVE AGAIN!
NO, BEN! STOP!
YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE SAYING--WHAT YOU'RE DOING!
BEN! STAY BACK!
SAVE YER BREATH, MISTER!
MY DAYS OF LISTENIN' TO YA ARE OVER!
HE'S--COMPLETELY OUT OF--CONTROL--!
IT DON'T MATTER HOW MUCH YA STRETCH 'N DODGE ME, RICHARDS!
I'LL NAIL YA SOONER OR LATER--AND ONE SHOT AT YA IS ALL IT'LL TAKE!
HE'S RIGHT! I NEED A WEAPON--AND I NEED IT FAST!
MY HI-VOLTAGE DISCHARGER--BEHIND HIM! IT'S GOT THE KICK OF A MULE!
IT COULD KILL A NORMAL MAN--
BUT WITH BEN'S MASSIVE STRENGTH--IT WON'T DO MORE THAN STUN HIM!
OH NO, RICHARDS! THAT TWO-BIT TOY AINT STOPPIN' ME!
I--WOULDN'T HAVE--BELIEVED IT!
HE'S SO COMPLETELY--SO UTTERLY CONSUMED WITH BESTIAL HATRED--THAT HE DOESN'T EVEN FEEL THE FORCE THAT'S STRIKING HIM!
YA WON'T ESCAPE ME NOW!


THE DISCHARGER! BEN--DON'T--IN YOUR HANDS, IT COULD--! BEN!!
GIMME THAT!! IF ANYONE'S GONNA USE IT--IT'LL BE ME!
I WARNED YA I WAS PLAYIN' FER KEEPS THIS TIME!
CAN'T FIGHT HIM ANY LONGER--WITHOUT WARNING THE OTHERS! IT'S TOO DANGEROUS!
IF I SHOULD FALL--HE MIGHT ATTACK THEM--WITHOUT WARNING!
REED! WHAT IS IT?? WHAT HAPPENED??
SUE! IN THE NAME OF HEAVEN--WHERE ARE YOU?
IT'S BEN! HE'S GONE MAD! SANTINI CHANGED HIM SOMEHOW! YOU'VE GOT TO RUN--GET AWAY--!
NOT A CHANCE! IT'S TOO LATE--FER ANY OF YA!
HE HAS YOUR HI-VOLTAGE DISCHARGER!!
I CAN'T RUN AWAY--NOT WHILE THE DANGER IS SO GREAT!--I CAN'T!
DON'T JUST STAND THERE, DARLING!!
HE INTENDS TO--DESTROY US!!
DON'T WORRY, LADY!! THE DANGER'LL BE FINISHED BEFORE YA KNOW IT!
'N SO WILL YOU!
SO! YA TOSSED UP YER INVISIBLE FORCE FIELD, HUH?
A FAT LOTTA GOOD THAT'S GONNA DO YA!
3

AT THAT MOMENT, JOHNNY STORM AND CRYSTAL RETURN TO THE BAXTER BUILDING, ONLY TO HEAR--
LISTEN! THE SOUND OF REED'S PORTABLE DISCHARGER! SOME-THING'S WRONG!
STAY BACK HERE, HONEY! I'D BETTER GO AND CHECK IT OUT!
BUT WHY CAN'T I GO WITH YOU?
NOT TILL I KNOW MORE ABOUT IT!
SECONDS LATER, JUST AS JOHNNY ENTERS THE LAB CORRIDOR--
ZAP!
THAT BOLT ALMOST HIT ME!
WHATEVER'S GOING ON IN THERE, I'M SURE OF ONE THING--IT'S FOR REAL!
FLAME ON!
THERE'S THE DISCHARGER-- RIGHT AHEAD OF ME!
CAN'T YET SEE WHO'S HOLDING IT FROM HERE--
BUT IT DOESN'T MATTER! ONE FIRE BLAST WILL TAKE CARE OF IT!
TZISSK!
THE TORCH! HE BLEW IT UP!
BEN! IT WAS YOU!!--BUT, I DON'T GET IT!
WHY WERE YOU FIRING REED'S DISCHARGER??!
YA DON'T THINK THAT CORNY WALL OF FLAME IS GONNA STOP ME FER LONG!
I'LL WRITE'CHA A BOOK!

CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE

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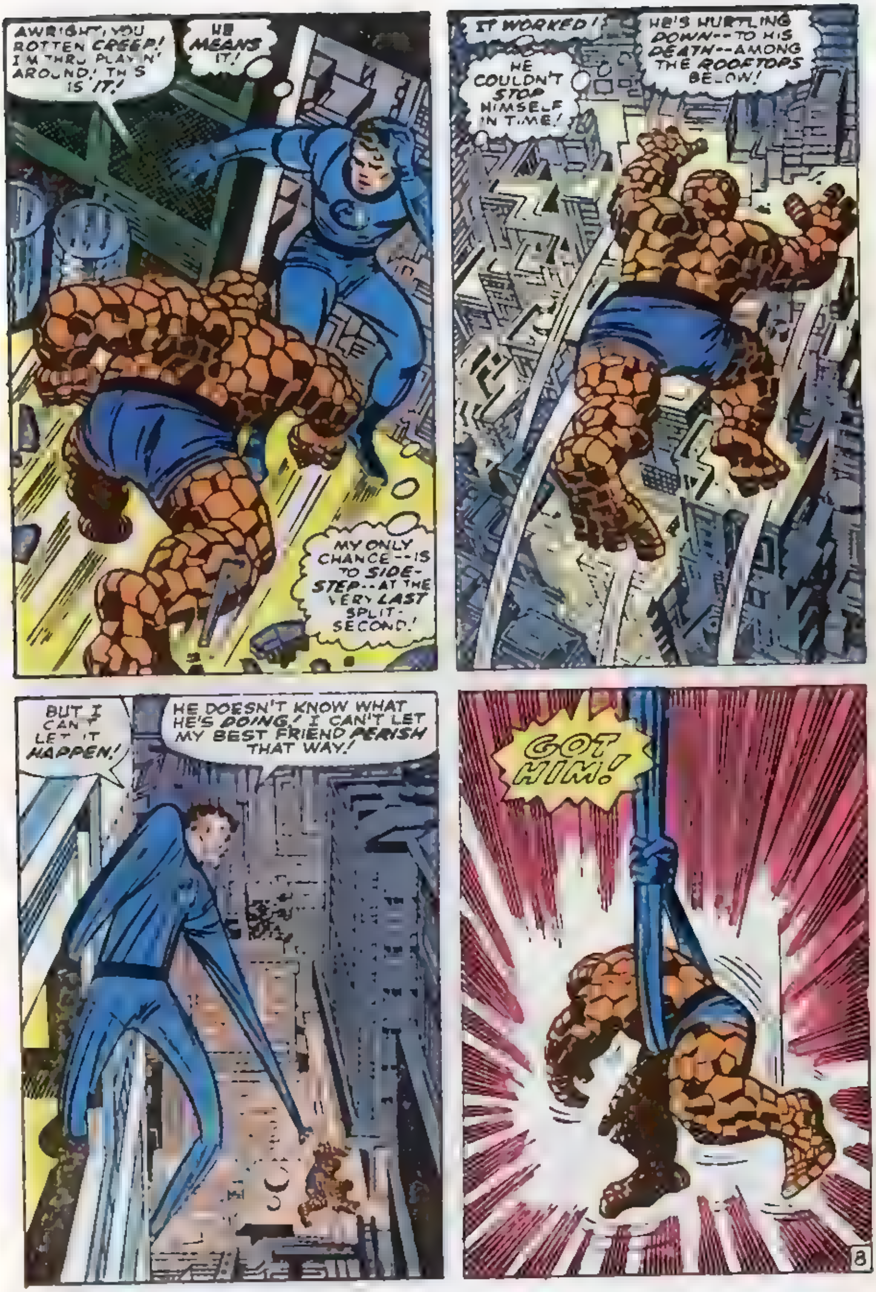
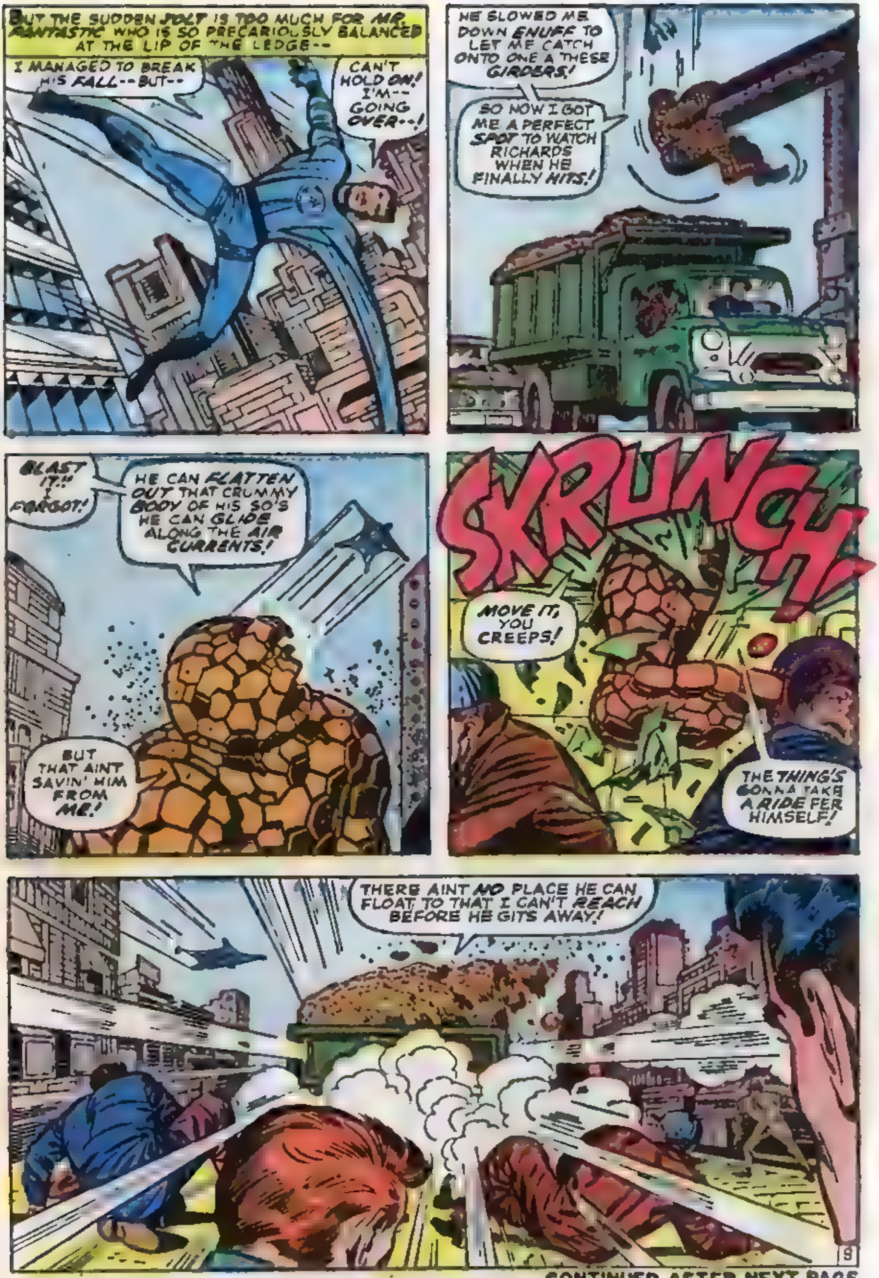
AND, ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE NOW-FLICKERING WALL OF FLAME--
WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR??
SURELY THAT LITTLE BIT OF DYING FIRE CAN'T STOP YOU!
WHAT'S THE RUSH, SANTINI? I CAN GIT 'EM ANY TIME I WANNA!
LET 'EM KNOCK THEMSELVES OUT--WONDERIN' WHEN I'LL TEAR INTA THEM!
YOU FOOL! TIME IS ON THEIR SIDE!
RICHARDS HAS ALL HIS EQUIPMENT TO WORK WITH! YOU MUSTN'T LET HIM CONSTRUCT A NEW WEAPON!
YEAH! I NEVER THOUGHT OF THAT!
WHOOM
OKAY, RICHARDS--PLAYTIME'S OVER! THIS IS IT, RAT!
THAT'S IT! THEY'RE JUST AHEAD OF YOU!
FINISH RICHARDS FIRST--AND THEN THE OTHERS!
AS FOR ME, I'VE JUST MADE THE GREATEST FIND OF ALL!
THE RAMPAGING FOOL JUST BROKE DOWN THE DOOR TO THEIR FILE ROOM!
EVERYTHING HAS HAPPENED JUST AS I PREDICTED IT WOULD!
NOT ONLY WILL I SUCCEED IN FINALLY WIPING OUT THE ACCURSED FANTASTIC FOUR--
BUT ALL OF RICHARDS' GREATEST SECRETS AND FORMULAE WILL BE MINE!
NEVER HAS ANYONE WON SO GREAT--SO TRULY MONUMENTAL A VICTORY!!
EVERYTHING I'VE EVER DREAMED OF ACCOMPLISHING--IS HERE--IN THESE PRICELESS PAPERS!
AND NOW, THE TIME FOR SUBTERFUGE AND DISGUISE IS ENDED!
6

ONE BLAST OF MY SPECIAL DISSOLVEX GAS WILL OBLITERATE ALL MY PLASTIC MAKE-UP--AS WELL AS MY HASTILY-GROWN MOUSTACHE--
NEVER AGAIN WILL MEN CALL ME THE MAD THINKER!
FROM THIS MOMENT ON, I WILL BE IMMORTALIZED AS THE ALL-POWERFUL THINKER--
THE ONLY GENIUS ABLE TO COMPLETELY WIPE OUT THE FANTASTIC FOUR!
TO THOSE OF YOU WHO HAD ALREADY GUESSED THAT THE BOGUS SANTINI IS REALLY THE MAD THINKER, OUR SINCEREST CONGRATULATIONS! TO ALL OTHERS, DON'T REPROACH YOURSELVES--EVEN HONEST IRVING WAS TAKEN BY SURPRISE! AND NOW, BACK TO THE TINTINNABULATIN' TUMULT...
I CAN'T GO, MY DARLING! I CAN'T LEAVE YOU TO FACE BEN ALONE--!
YOU MUST, SUE! I CAN'T LET YOU PLACE YOURSELF IN JEOPARDY --LEAST OF ALL NOW!
AS SOON AS I GET 'EM TO THE PRECINCT HOUSE, I'LL BE BACK, REED!
YOU'VE GOTTA HANG ON TILL THEN-- NO MATTER WHAT!
ARE YOU SURE THIS IS FOR THE BEST, JOHNNY?
JOHNNY WILL TAKE BOTH YOU AND CRYSTAL TO SAFETY!
LET'S GO, SIS!! EVERY SECOND COUNTS!
IT'S REED'S ORDERS--AND THAT'S GOOD ENOUGH FOR ME, CRYS!
THEY'RE SAFE-- AT LAST!
NOW I CAN FACE THE THING--WITH NO DISTRACTIONS-- NO INTERFERENCE!
BE CAREFUL, REED! BE CAREFUL-- MY DEAREST--!
SHOOOOOOM
KRASH!
BEN!
7


AWRIGHT, YOU ROTTEN CREEP! I'M THRU PLAYIN' AROUND! THIS IS IT!
HE MEANS IT!
MY ONLY CHANCE--IS TO SIDE-STEP--AT THE VERY LAST SPLIT-SECOND!
IT WORKED!
HE COULDN'T STOP HIMSELF IN TIME!
HE'S HURTLING DOWN--TO HIS DEATH--AMONG THE ROOFTOPS BELOW!
BUT I CAN'T LET IT HAPPEN!
HE DOESN'T KNOW WHAT HE'S DOING! I CAN'T LET MY BEST FRIEND PERISH THAT WAY!
GOT HIM!
8



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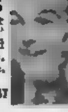
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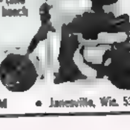
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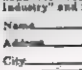
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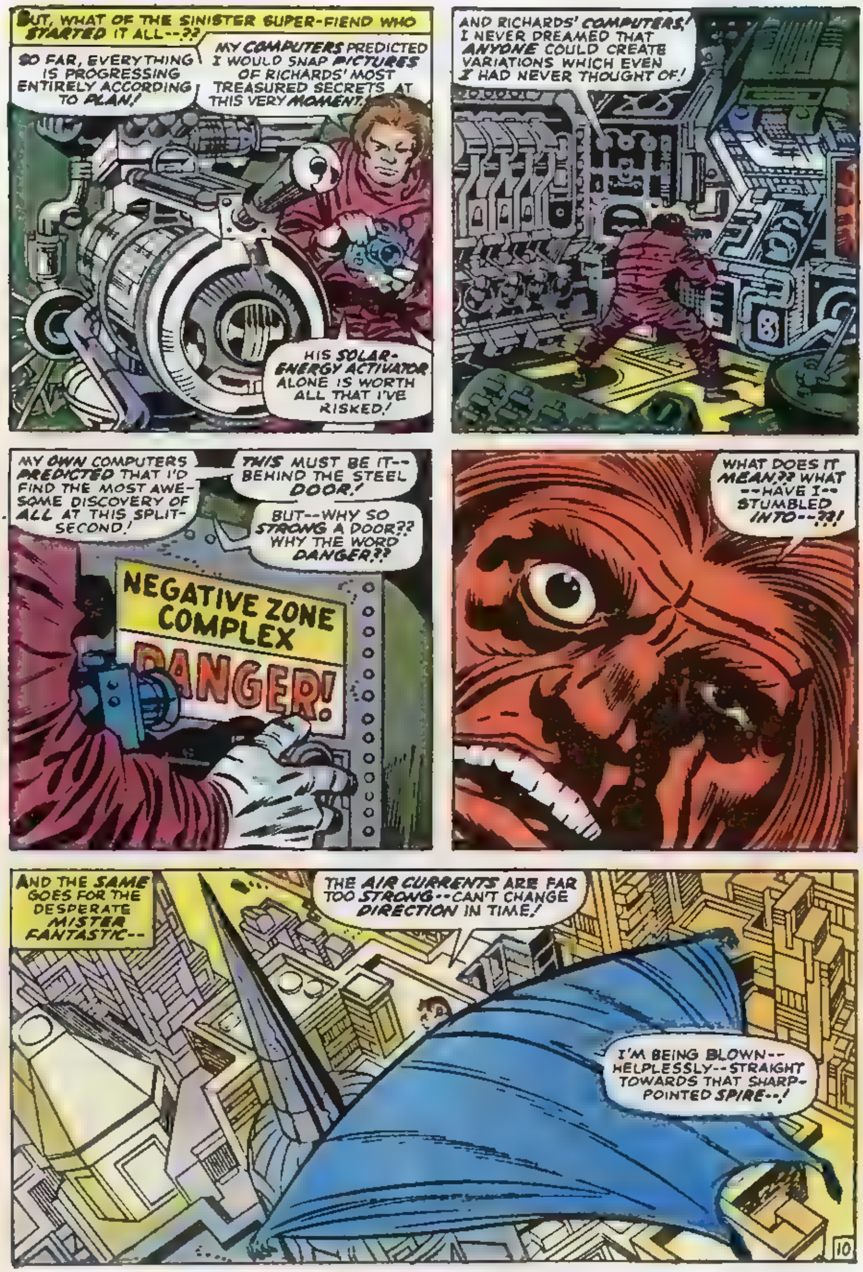
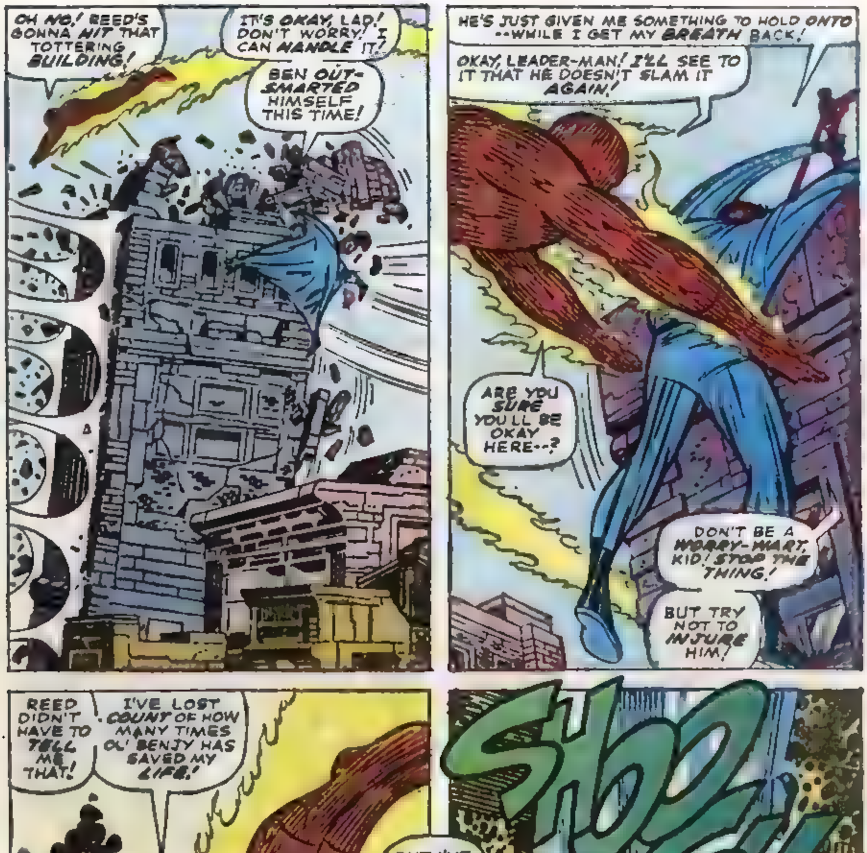
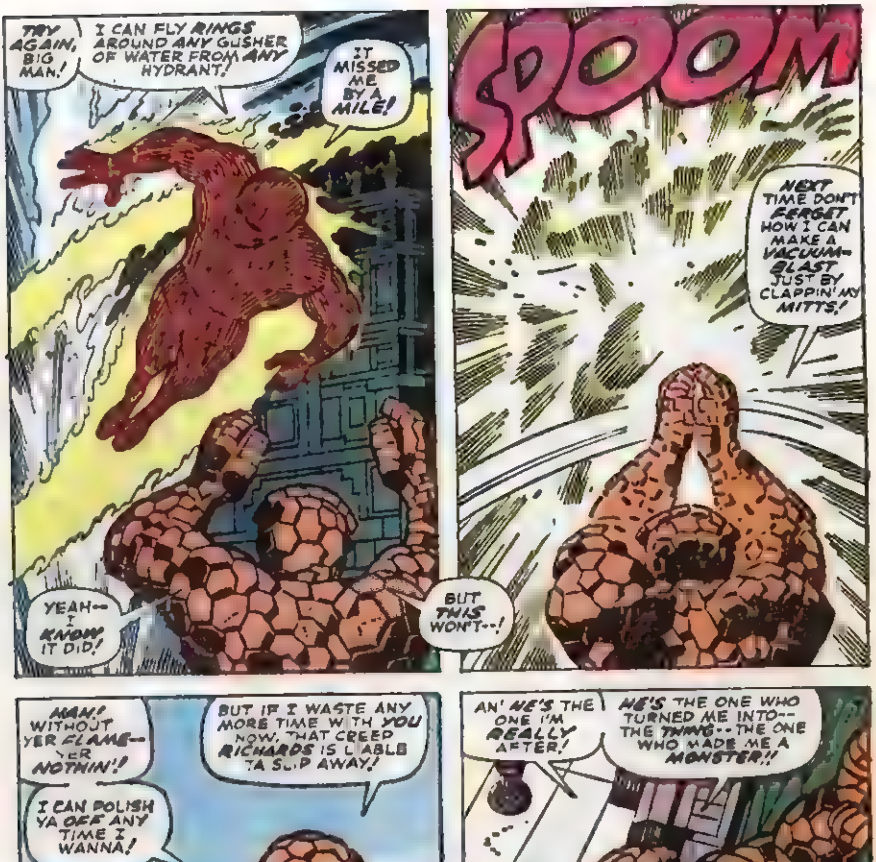

BUT, WHAT OF THE SINISTER SUPER-FIEND WHO STARTED IT ALL--??
SO FAR, EVERYTHING IS PROGRESSING ENTIRELY ACCORDING TO PLAN!
MY COMPUTERS PREDICTED I WOULD SNAP PICTURES OF RICHARDS' MOST TREASURED SECRETS AT THIS VERY MOMENT!
HIS SOLAR-ENERGY ACTIVATOR ALONE IS WORTH ALL THAT I'VE RISKED!
AND RICHARDS' COMPUTERS! I NEVER DREAMED THAT ANYONE COULD CREATE VARIATIONS WHICH EVEN I HAD NEVER THOUGHT OF!
MY OWN COMPUTERS PREDICTED THAT I'D FIND THE MOST AWESOME DISCOVERY OF ALL AT THIS SPLIT-SECOND!
THIS MUST BE IT-- BEHIND THE STEEL DOOR!
BUT--WHY SO STRONG A DOOR?? WHY THE WORD DANGER??
NEGATIVE ZONE COMPLEX
DANGER!
WHAT DOES IT MEAN?? WHAT --HAVE I-- STUMBLED INTO--??!
AND THE SAME GOES FOR THE DESPERATE MISTER FANTASTIC--
THE AIR CURRENTS ARE FAR TOO STRONG--CAN'T CHANGE DIRECTION IN TIME!
I'M BEING BLOWN-- HELPLESSLY--STRAIGHT TOWARDS THAT SHARP-POINTED SPIRE--!
10

BUT, BEFORE THE FANTASTIC ADVENTURER CAN STRIKE THE DEADLY STEEPLE...
LOOKS LIKE I MADE IT BACK JUST IN TIME!
YOU KNOW IT, BROTHER-IN-LAW!
COVER ME JOHNNY-- AS I HEAD FOR THE RIVER!
LOOKS LIKE HE'S TRYIN' FOR A LANDIN' IN THE WATER!
WELL, IT AINT GONNA BE AS EASY AS HE THINKS-- NOT IF I CAN HELP IT!
HE'S STARTIN' TO GLIDE LOWER!
AN' THAT MAKES IT JUST PERFECT FER ME!
ALL I GOTTA DO IS REACH THAT OLD, EMPTY TEN-STORY TOWER JUST AHEAD!
THUMP!
IT'S GONNA BE TORN DOWN ANYWAY-- TA MAKE ROOM FER THE NEW EXPRESS-WAY--
FTOOM!
I'LL JUST KINDA SPEED UP THE JOB A LITTLE!


OH NO! REED'S GONNA HIT THAT TOTTERING BUILDING!
IT'S OKAY, LAD! DON'T WORRY! I CAN HANDLE IT!
BEN OUT-SMARTED HIMSELF THIS TIME!
HE'S JUST GIVEN ME SOMETHING TO HOLD ONTO --WHILE I GET MY BREATH BACK!
OKAY, LEADER-MAN! I'LL SEE TO IT THAT HE DOESN'T SLAM IT AGAIN!
ARE YOU SURE YOU'LL BE OKAY HERE--?
DON'T BE A WORRY-WART, KID! STOP THE THING!
BUT TRY NOT TO INJURE HIM!
REED DIDN'T HAVE TO TELL ME THAT!
I'VE LOST COUNT OF HOW MANY TIMES OL' BENJY HAS SAVED MY LIFE!
BUT I'VE STILL GOTTA STOP 'IM SOME-HOW!
YOU AGIN!!
I AINT GOT TIME TO WASTE ON KIDS!! NOT YET, ANYWAY!
SHOOSH!
12



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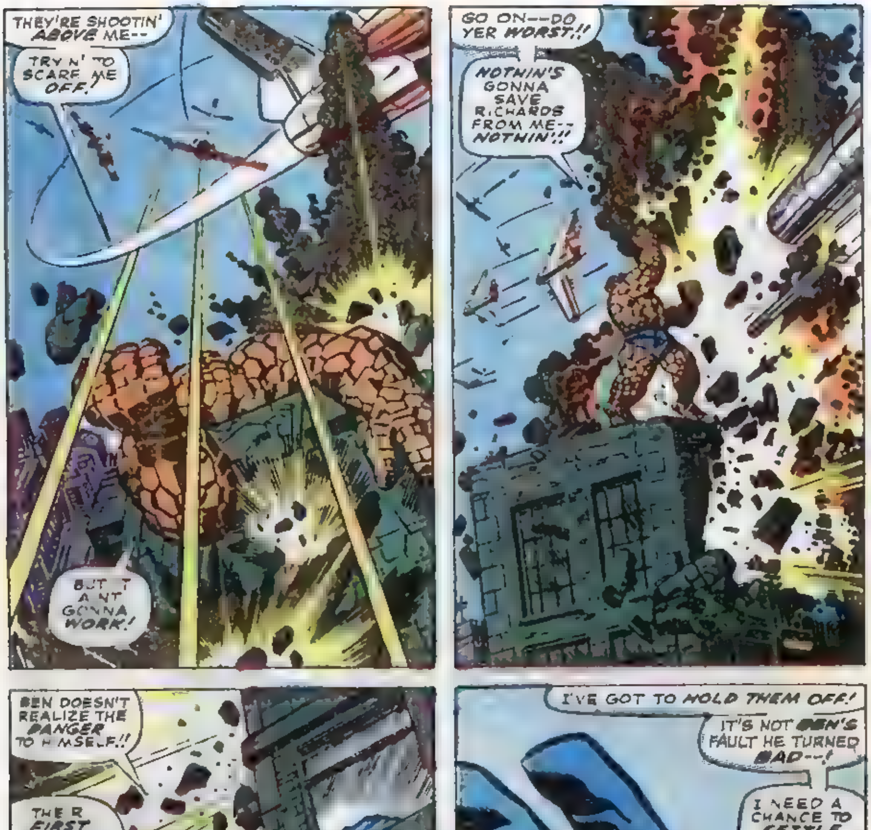
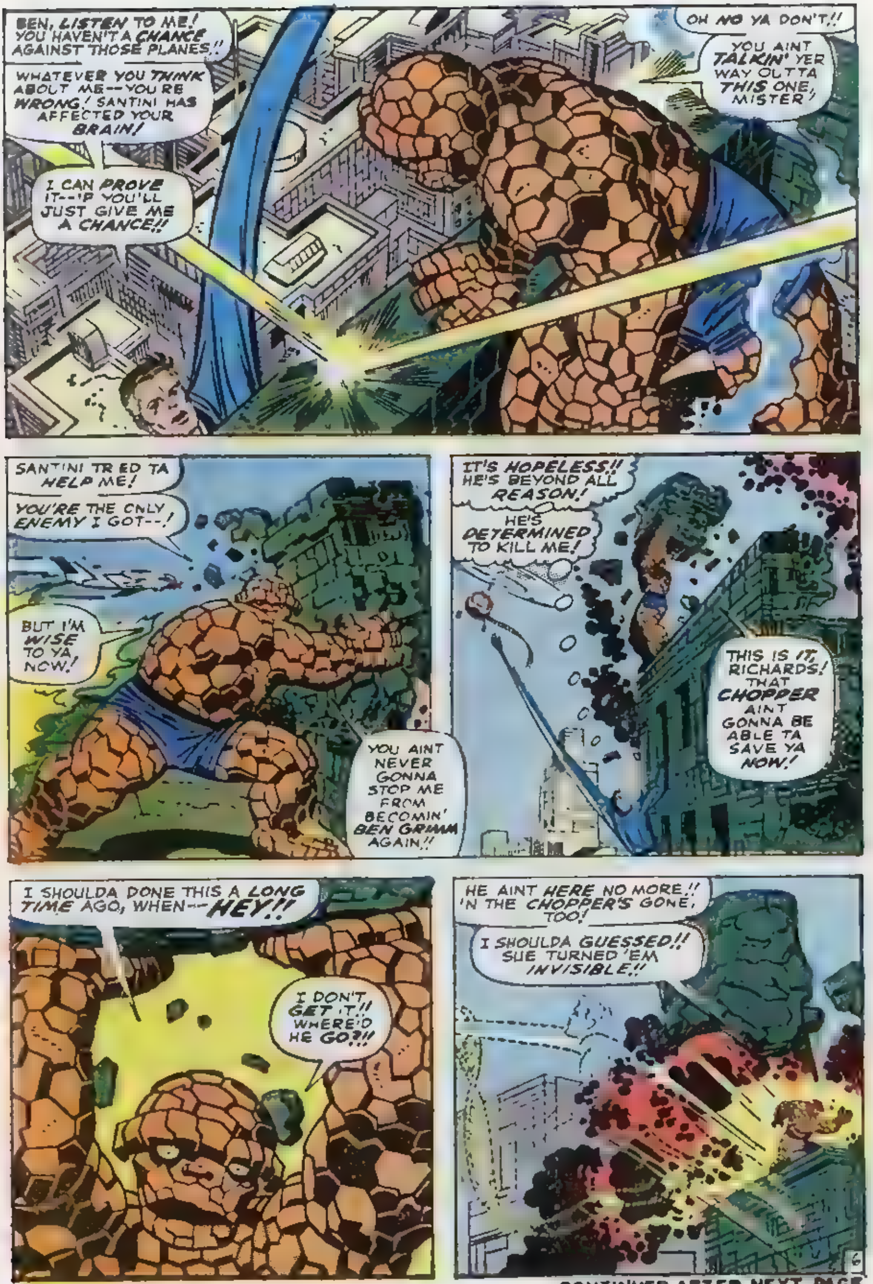
THE FANTASTIC FOUR AND SPIDER-MAN COPYRIGHT ©1967 MARVEL COMICS GROUP

ALL TIME EST- CHECK LOCAL LISTINGS FOR TIMES IN YOUR AREA!

CASPER©1967 HARVEY FAMOUS CARTOONS • JOURNEY TO THE CENTER OF EARTH ©1967-20TH CENT. FOX • KING KONG ©1967 WESTERN PUB. • GEORGE OF JUNGLE ©1967 JAY WARD

WHILE, IN A BUSY POLICE COMMUNICATIONS ROOM, DIRECTLY ACROSS TOWN, WE FIND--
WE'RE DOING EVERYTHING WE CAN, MRS. RICHARDS
EVERY AVAILABLE MAN IS BEING RUSHED TO THE SCENE RIGHT NOW!
ARE YOU SURE YOU'VE HEARD NOTHING?? NO WORD AT ALL?
HERE'S THE SCRAMBLE ORDER TO ZONE D! WE'RE TAKING NO CHANCES!
MOVE IT, MAN!
THIS IS IT, YOU GUYS!
THEY'VE JUST BEEN SIGHTED IN THE MURRAY HILL SECTION!
WE'RE GONNA THROW EVERYTHING WE'VE GOT INTO THE AREA!
IF THERE'S ANY WAY TO HELP REED RICHARDS, WE'LL FIND IT, LADY!
IF ONLY--WE COULD BE SURE--THE THING WON'T BE HARMED, AS WELL!
LOOK, MRS. RICHARDS!! YOU CAN'T HAVE IT BOTH WAYS!
THAT NOISE OVERHEAD!! THE SOUND OF ENGINES--JET PLANES--!
THAT ORANGE-SKINNED POWERHOUSE ISN'T GONNA BE STOPPED BY A PAT ON THE WRIST!
I TOLD YOU WE WERE PULLIN' ALL THE STOPS! WE CAN'T LET SOMEONE AS STRONG AS THE THING RUN RIOT IN THIS TOWN!
JETS!! THEY MUST BE COMIN' FER ME!
NUTS! IT'LL TAKE A LOT MORE'N THAT TO KEEP ME FROM GITTIN' MY HANDS ON RICHARDS!!
'N AFTER I DO--I DON'T GIVE A HANG WHAT HAPPENS!


THEY'RE SHOOTIN' ABOVE ME--
TRYIN' TO SCARE ME OFF!
BUT IT AIN'T GONNA WORK!
GO ON--DO YER WORST!!
NOTHIN'S GONNA SAVE RICHARDS FROM ME--NOTHIN'!!
BEN DOESN'T REALIZE THE DANGER TO HIMSELF!!
THEIR FIRST PASS WAS JUST A WARNING--
BUT THEY'LL COME IN FOR THE KILL NEXT TIME AROUND!!
I'VE GOT TO HOLD THEM OFF!
IT'S NOT BEN'S FAULT HE TURNED BAD--!
I NEED A CHANCE TO SETTLE THIS--MY OWN WAY--WITHOUT HURTING HIM!
--IF I CAN KEEP HIM FROM KILLING ME WHILE I DO IT!



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I'LL MAKE YOU A MASTER OF KARATE

(Karate is the secret, Oriental art of self-defense that turns your hands, arms or legs into paralyzing weapons . . . without any bodily contact.)

In just 2 hours after you receive "SUPER KARATE" you will be on your way to being an invincible Karate Master, at home, this Fast, EASY picture way or it costs you nothing. *In my classes this same course of instruction would cost $110.00.*

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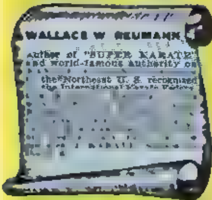


I spent [illegible] years in Japan learning the little-known [illegible] art of KARATE and was awarded the [illegible] [illegible] of [illegible]. Now I'm ready to show *you* every secret I learned—and I guarantee I'll make YOU into a KARATE Specialist within hours—or every cent you paid for my information will be refunded!

You don't have to attend either of my 2 schools where I train [illegible] KARATE experts. [illegible] can show you [illegible] practice KARATE in the [illegible] of your own home with only a few minutes of practice [illegible]. I have [illegible] all I [illegible] about KARATE into "SUPER KARATE"—profusely illustrated and clearly explained.

In this book I take you step by step through the fundamentals of KARATE so that you understand [illegible] amazing principles operate to make you master of ANYONE you may meet—no matter how big he is, or how much he weighs!

YOUR BODY IS YOUR PROTECTION!

The result of hundreds of years of development in Japan KARATE is [illegible] system of self-defense in which you turn your hands, arms and legs into [illegible] weapons of [illegible]. [illegible] KARATE [illegible] and disable your opponent in SECONDS.

When you apply KARATE techniques, you can cut an aggressor down with a blow of the side of your hand. You can toss an attacker from the rear over your shoulder and slam him into the ground. (In fact, a recent photograph in Pageant Magazine shows a [illegible]-lb. *girl* slamming her 240-lb. instructor into the practice mat.)

With KARATE you can disarm an opponent rushing you with his fists, a [illegible] or any [illegible], can turn an aggressor's attack into your advantage with only your bare hands, your arms and your legs.

What *would* you do if you were insulted by a bully? . . . or if 3 or 4 hoodlums passed remarks about your girl? . . . or if you were suddenly mugged from behind? . . . or if someone came at you with a baseball bat? If you're like millions of other Americans, you'd be absolutely helpless and you'd be ashamed, humiliated [illegible] in the eyes of your [illegible] friends.

MASTER EVERY SITUATION!

With KARATE you can disarm and disable two, three and even four attackers. You can apply a simple pressure of your thumb and finger against any one of a dozen vital nerve centers of your opponent and watch his gun or knife fall from his limp hand while he himself sinks to the ground completely helpless and faint.

You can calmly watch a bully come at you with clenched fists—and see him sail over your head without having had any contact with him other than with the *sole of your shoe!* When you complete my instructions, you'll be ready for ANYONE, for ANY emergency [illegible] supremely confident of being able to handle any situation perfectly.

In fact, a knowledge of KARATE will turn you into a NEW MAN even if you never actually have to use it! For you will become self-assured and completely confident of yourself and your ability to handle yourself. You will walk with a determined and confident step . . . you'll look any man in the eye . . . and you'll walk the [illegible] NOTHING can frighten you—that you can deal with any man, any weapon, any situation—and that you can do all this with NO bodily contact!

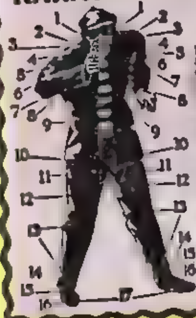
Know ONLY 99¢

You owe it to your own peace of mind—to your loved ones—to be able to defend yourself in these days when attack may come at any time from hoodlums, criminals and "wise guys". So mail coupon below NOW for my complete Instruction on KARATE—for the amazingly low price of only 99¢ plus 26¢ for postage and handling. If you and your friends don't say KARATE has made a new man out of you, every cent will be refunded! PS: If you order now—I'll include without extra charge your personal Membership Card in the American Karate Federation.

[illegible] Magazine says ". . . [illegible] science"

GIANT LIFE-LIKE KARATE PRACTICE DUMMY

only **99¢**



[illegible] you know WHERE [illegible] KARATE MODEL show you [illegible] your body's major [illegible] numbers on DUMMY [illegible] of pressure points and weak spots which you can practice attacking. Order your own personal DUMMY and illustrated KARATE instructions now. Check coupon.

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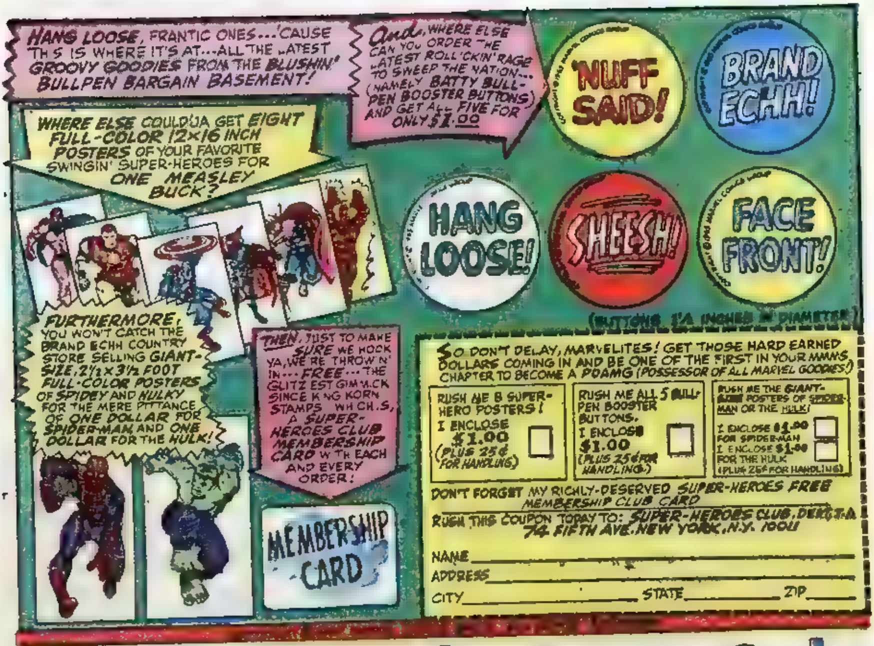
NAME . . . .

ADDRESS . . . .

CITY . . . . ZONE . . . . STATE . . . .

☐ I understand that by studying KARATE I am morally bound and obligated never to practice KARATE as an aggressor (only to defend myself) and will never abuse it.



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		1919	.10	1929S	.15	1939S	.15	1948	.10
1909	$ .50	1919S	.20	1929D	.20	1939D	1.25	1948D	.10
1910	.25	1919D	.25	1930	.10	1940	.10	1948S	.12
1910S	6.50	1920	.15	1930S	.35	1940D	.10	1949	.10
1911	.30	1920S	.25	1930D	.25	1940S	.10	1949D	.15
1911D	3.00	1920D	.30	1931	.70	1941	.10	1949S	.25
1912	.35	1921	.30	1931D	5.00	1941D	.10	1950	.15
1912S	6.50	1921S	1.25	1932	1.50	1941S	.10	1950D	.15
1912D	3.00	1922D	4.50	1932D	1.50	1942	.10	1950S	.15
1913	.35	1923	.12	1933	1.25	1942D	.10	1951	.15
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1913D	2.00	1924	.15	1934	.10	1943	.15	1951S	.15
1914	.35	1924S	1.50	1934D	.55	1943D	.25	1952	.15
1914S	6.50	1925	.10	1935	.10	1943S	.30	1952D	.15
1915	1.25	1925S	.40	1935S	.20	1944	.10	1952S	.15
1915S	6.00	1925D	.50	1935D	.20	1944D	.10	1953	.15
1915D	1.25	1926	.10	1936	.10	1944S	.12	1953D	.15
1916	.15	1926S	6.50	1936S	.30	1945	.10	1953S	.15
1916S	1.10	1926D	.35	1936D	.20	1945D	.10	1954	.40
1916D	.55	1927	.10	1937	.10	1945S	.10	1954D	.15
1917	.10	1927S	1.00	1937S	.20	1946	.10	1954S	.25
1917S	.45	1927D	.30	1937D	.15	1946D	.10	1955	.15
1917D	.35	1928	.12	1938	.10	1946S	.10	1955D	.15
1918	.12	1928S	.60	1938D	.70	1947	.10	1955S	.85

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(Please Print Clearly)

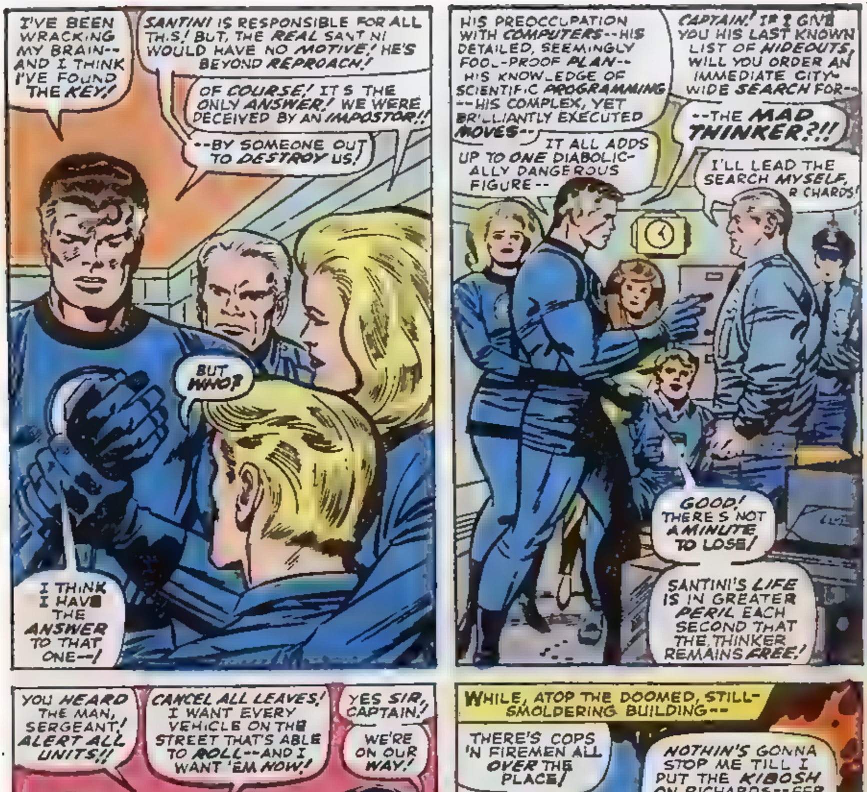
Address..................................

City..................................

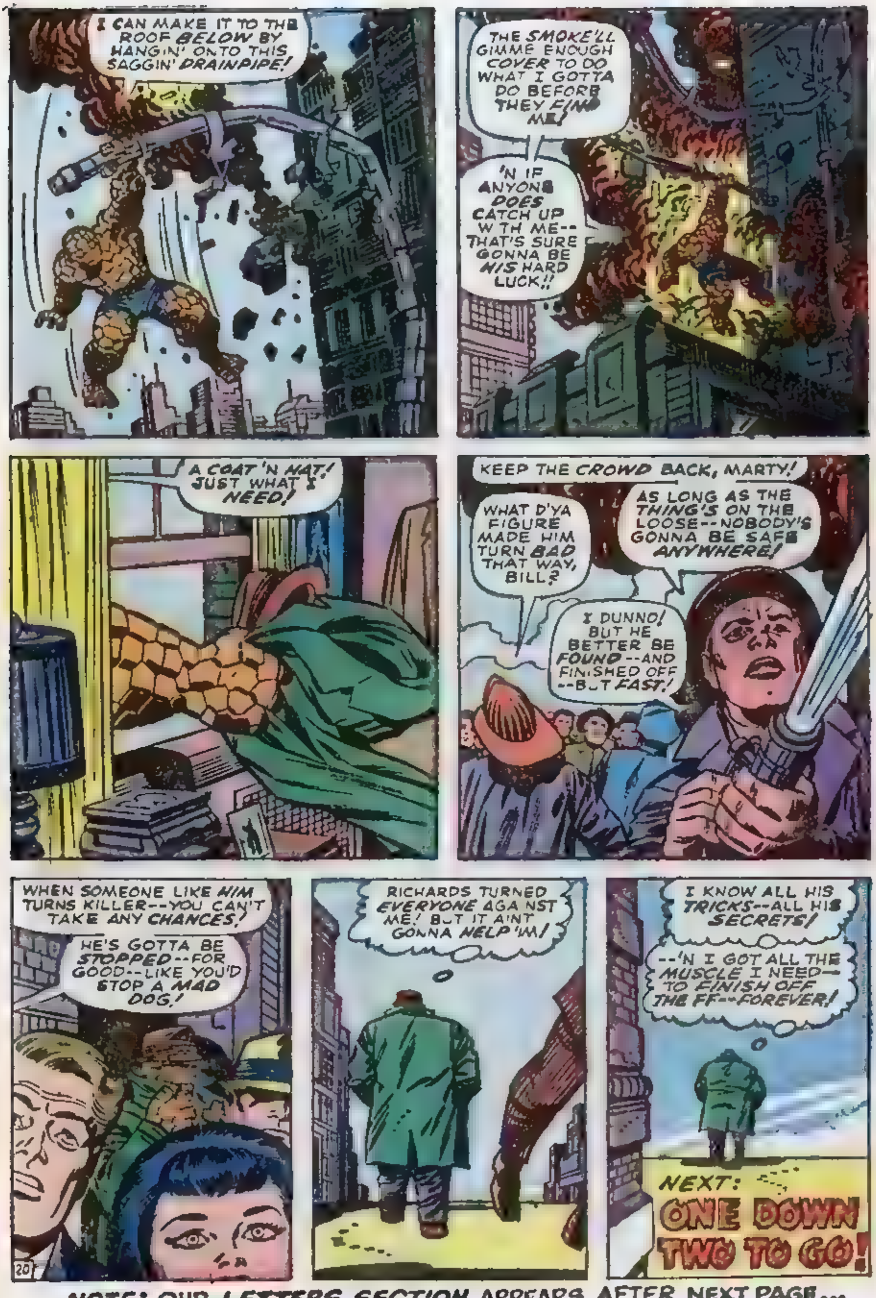
State....................Zip..........

THEN, ONCE THE SHIP IS SAFELY OUT OF RANGE--
QUICK! CONTACT THE JETS!
HAVE THEM RETURN TO BASE!!
THE THING MUST NOT BE HARMED!
I'LL ASSUME ALL RESPONSIBILITY!
THE ORDER'S BEEN GIVEN, SIR!
YOU WERE WONDERFUL, SUE! YOU SAVED ME --WITHOUT HARMING BEN!
BUT--HOW LONG CAN WE PROTECT HIM, DARLING?? WHAT WILL BECOME OF HIM?
MAY HEAVEN HELP US-- I--DON'T--KNOW!!
AND, IN ANOTHER PART OF THE CITY, THE REAL DR. SANTINI FINALLY RECOVERS CONSCIOUSNESS ONCE MORE--
I'M STILL A PRISONER! STILL TRAPPED WITHIN THIS STRANGE STEEL CELL!
BUT WHY?? BY WHOM?? FOR WHAT UNGODLY PURPOSE??!
OVER THERE-- A FIGURE-- BEHIND THAT PLEX GLASS WINDOW!!
IF I CAN JUST SIGNAL HIM--ATTRACT HIS ATTENTION--!! PERHAPS HE CAN HELP ME--!!
IT'S NO USE!! HE DOESN'T MOVE!! HE SEEMS AS LIFELESS AS A STATUE!
IN FACT--HIS HEAD-- WHAT I CAN SEE OF IT--ISN'T HUMAN!!
HE'S--AN ANDROID OF SOME SORT--!!
BUT WHO CONTROLS HIM?? WHO'S BEHIND IT ALL??
AND, IN ANSWER TO SANTINI'S DESPERATE QUESTION, WE RETURN TO THE MAD THINKER, AS HE BEHOLDS AN AWESOME SIGHT--
SO!! RICHARDS HAS FOUND THE ENTRANCE TO SUB-SPACE--
HE'S DISCOVERED THE DREADED NEGATIVE ZONE ITSELF!!
7

THE NEGATIVE ZONE!! THE ONE THING MY COMPUTERS COULD NOT PREDICT--THE ONE EXTRA FACTOR!!
BUT, EVERYTHING ELSE HAS GONE ACCORDING TO MY COMPUTATIONS!
THERE WAS A 89.68% POSSIBILITY THAT THE THING HAS FINISHED REED RICHARDS BY NOW!
AND YET--I MUST NOT DISCOUNT THE .32% POSSIBILITY OF AN UPSET!
IF RICHARDS SURVIVED, HE IS CERTAIN TO GUESS MY REAL IDENTITY!
IN WHICH CASE, IT WON'T TAKE HIM LONG TO FIND WHERE I'VE IMPRISONED SANTINI!
THAT MEANS I'VE GOT TO RETURN AS SOON AS POSSIBLE--AND DISPOSE OF THE LIVING EVIDENCE!
THE NEGATIVE ZONE WILL HAVE TO WAIT--
--UNTIL I'VE MADE CERTAIN TO COVER ALL MY TRACKS!
AND NOW, BACK TO OUR HARRASSED HEROES--
WE LEARNED YOU HAD BROUGHT THE TORCH HERE!
CAN WE SEE HIM?? IS HE ALL RIGHT?
SURE, RICHARDS! WE MANAGED TO REACH HIM IN PLENTY OF TIME!
THE BOY IS FINE!
HE'S WAITING FOR YOU--RIGHT INSIDE--!
JOHNNY! THANK HEAVENS YOU'RE NOT HURT! WE WERE SO WORRIED!
NUTS! I WAS SOME GREAT HELP!
YOU'D HAVE DONE BETTER WITHOUT ME!
NO! DON'T SAY THAT!
HOW COULD YOU KNOW THAT BEN WAS OUT TO DESTROY US??
I STILL CAN HARDLY BELIEVE IT!
WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE, REED?



I'VE BEEN WRACKING MY BRAIN-- AND I THINK I'VE FOUND THE KEY!
SANTINI IS RESPONSIBLE FOR ALL THIS! BUT, THE REAL SANTINI WOULD HAVE NO MOTIVE! HE'S BEYOND REPROACH!
OF COURSE! IT'S THE ONLY ANSWER! WE WERE DECEIVED BY AN IMPOSTOR!!
--BY SOMEONE OUT TO DESTROY US!
BUT WHO?
I THINK I HAVE THE ANSWER TO THAT ONE--!
HIS PREOCCUPATION WITH COMPUTERS--HIS DETAILED, SEEMINGLY FOOL-PROOF PLAN--HIS KNOWLEDGE OF SCIENTIFIC PROGRAMMING--HIS COMPLEX, YET BRILLIANTLY EXECUTED MOVES--
IT ALL ADDS UP TO ONE DIABOLICALLY DANGEROUS FIGURE--
CAPTAIN! IF I GIVE YOU HIS LAST KNOWN LIST OF HIDEOUTS, WILL YOU ORDER AN IMMEDIATE CITY-WIDE SEARCH FOR--
--THE MAD THINKER?!!
I'LL LEAD THE SEARCH MYSELF, RICHARDS!
GOOD! THERE'S NOT A MINUTE TO LOSE!
SANTINI'S LIFE IS IN GREATER PERIL EACH SECOND THAT THE THINKER REMAINS FREE!
YOU HEARD THE MAN, SERGEANT! ALERT ALL UNITS!!
CANCEL ALL LEAVES! I WANT EVERY VEHICLE ON THE STREET THAT'S ABLE TO ROLL--AND I WANT 'EM NOW!
YES SIR, CAPTAIN!
WE'RE ON OUR WAY!
WHILE, ATOP THE DOOMED, STILL-SMOLDERING BUILDING--
THERE'S COPS 'N FIREMEN ALL OVER THE PLACE!
BUT THEY AINT GONNA BE ABLE TO STOP ME!!
NOTHIN'S GONNA STOP ME TILL I PUT THE KIBOSH ON RICHARDS--FER THE LAST TIME!
19



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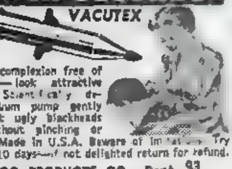

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INSTANT INFO, INSANELY INSPIRED BY IRRELEVANT ITEMS OF INCREDIBLE INCONSEQUENCE!

ITEM! All of Marveldom assembled sends best wishes to Jolly JACK and ROZ KIRBY on their 25th wedding anniversary! We're beginnin' to suspect that these two have a good thing going!

ITEM! We still don't know the exact date but as we write these wondrous words, the adorable ABC Network has scheduled a full hour of Marvelmania for Saturday mornings. It'll open with 30 minutes of FANTASTIC FOUR, followed by another 30 minutes of SPIDER-MAN! (And as soon as Honest Irv gets his own show, then you'll know we've really taken over the world!) Anyway, whether it sends you or sinks you, be sure to drop a line to the President of ABC, at 1330 Avenue of the Americas, New York City, and let him know that the eyes of all True Believers are upon him!

ITEM! How's this for a sensation? We've plumb run out of Tales of Asgard (in THOR, natch!) so we're replacing that time-honored feature with another little doozy that'll really rock the roost! Starting now — we're hi-lighting a 5-page featurette starring — hold on, now — none other than the incomparable INHUMANS! If you miss a single one, you'll shake our confidence in ourselves, so hang in there, huh?

ITEM! Dandy DAN ADKINS (Dr. Strange and Sub-Mariner) and Jaunty JIM STERANKO (Nick Fury, Agent of Shield) have become the newest darlings of Marvel fandom! Together with our other two latest luminaries, Merry MARIE SEVERIN (The Hulk and Not Brand Echh) and Big JOHN BUSCEMA (The Avengers), they're getting almost as much rave mail as FABULOUS FLO and JOLLY SOLLY put together! That oughta prove something! (And as soon as we figure out what it is, we'll clue you in!)

ITEM! Just as we promised, we're gonna give you various titles which all you Keepers of the Faith may use when signing your names. In order to allow you enough time to memorize them, we'll give you one per month, until the list is complete. And so, we hereby present the first, officially-approved Marvel monicker, to be used by any frenzied fan who buys at least three Marvel titles per month, with unfailing devotion — you, O hallowed hero, have now attained the first rung of the towering ladder of Marveldom! You are now — automatically, and irrevocably — an R.F.O. — a Real Frantic One! And, like Abu Ben Adam, may your tribe increase!

ITEM! We've another new feature premiering this month — in X-MEN! In answer to public demand (Bernard Public, our mailman!) we're presenting a 5-pager devoted to the hitherto secret Origins of the X-Men! No true mutant-lover will dare to miss it!

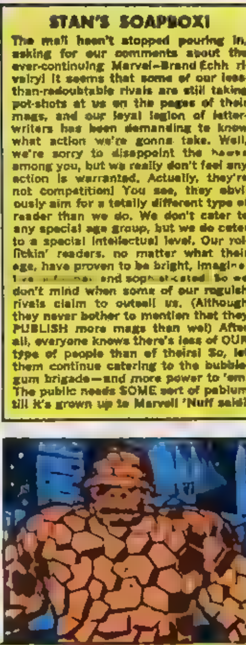
ITEM! We'll award a genuine, non-tarnish no-prize to the first dozen devotees who can guess the off-beat reason why we had to raise the membership price for joining the M.M.M.S. back to one dollar again. Clue — it's not the obvious reason that you'd be apt to expect!

ITEM! Have you seen the swingin' surprise awaiting you in the current issue of NOT BRAND ECHH? Nothing sensational — merely the one little feature that the whole human race has been holding its breath for! At long last, for the first time anywhere, we're peerlessly presenting the agonizin' adventures of — FORBUSH-MAN! Need we say more?

ITEM! And how's this for the most exciting combo of the season—? Darlin' DICK AYERS is back at the pencilling end of SGT. FURY — with none other than JOHNNY (Sat-'em-up) SEVERIN handling the inking chores! We have a hunch that you'll call our team-up of these two towering talents the smartest move since Aunt Petunia ducked out of Alcatraz!

STAN'S SOAPBOX!

The mail hasn't stopped pouring in, asking for our comments about the ever-continuing Marvel—Brand Echh rivalry! It seems that some of our less-than-redoubtable rivals are still taking pot-shots at us on the pages of their mags, and our loyal legion of letter-writers has been demanding to know what action we're gonna take. Well, we're sorry to disappoint the hawks among you, but we really don't feel any action is warranted. Actually, they're not competition! You see, they obviously aim for a totally different type of reader than we do. We don't cater to any special age group, but we do cater to a special intellectual level. Our rollickin' readers, no matter what their age, have proven to be bright, imaginative, informed and sophisticated. So we don't mind when some of our roguish rivals claim to outsell us. (Although they never bother to mention that they PUBLISH more mags than we!) After all, everyone knows there's less of OUR type of people than of theirs! So, let them continue catering to the bubble-gum brigade—and more power to 'em. The public needs SOME sort of pablum till it's grown up to Marvel! 'Nuff said!



THE MIGHTY MARVEL CHECKLIST

Marvel-ous Mags On Sale Right Now!

NOT BRAND ECHH #5: The greatest ish yet! Featuring the epic battles of the Bulk vs. the Thung, the Revengers vs. Charlie America, and — the sensation of the season — introducing the frantic Forbush-Man!

SPIDER-MAN #55: Not only does Spidey fight the battle of his life against the astonishing Doc Ock, but fate deals him one of the most crushing blows of all! Another landmark issue!

AVENGERS #46: Inside the Anthill Waits . . . Death! And a shrunken Goliath and Wasp are the pair of ever-lovin' assemblers that it's waiting for — while Cap and Pietro take on a malevolent menace known only as . . . the Whirlwind! It's a blast!

X-MEN #38: The world's most unusual fighting team have only seconds left in which to save the earth from the horrors of World War III — and the clutches of the Mutant-Master! Also, don't miss the start of a sensational new series — "The Origins of the X-Men!"

DAREDEVIL #34: The action takes place at Expo '67, as DD tears into the bludgeoning Beetle in one of the most block-busting battles yet! It's ol' Hornhead at his fighting best — and wait'll you see the breath-taking finale!

THOR #146: This is the one you've been demanding! It's Thor, as you've rarely seen him, surrounded by the most crafty, colorful, conniving crowd of craven crooks—getting himself into a deadly dilemma which is more than his super-strength can handle!

SUSPENSE #96: How can Iron Man defeat a foe whose slightest touch can turn him to helpless stone? You'll never expect the startling finish! As for Captain America — he learns what it's like to be reborn!

ASTONISH #98: Namor's fabled Atlantis is besieged by the forces of the pernicious Plunderer — while the hoodwinked Hulk is about to make the greatest mistake of his life, in the service of the Lord of the Living Lightning!

STRANGE TALES #163: Everybody's favorite Director of SHIELD closes in on the cataclysmic climax to his death-struggle with the Yellow Claw — while Doc Strange is forced to team up with the nefarious Nebulos to save earth from the Living Tribunal! This one's a real mind-snapper!

SGT. FURY #46: The blockbustin' Blitz Squad returns to make a devastating attack on the Howlers' home base in Britain! 'Nuff said!

MARVEL COLLECTORS' ITEM CLASSICS #12: The FF, the Hulk, Iron Man and Doc Strange in some of their most agonizing adventures of all—in this, the Marvel Age of Comics! Color this one groovesville!

FANTASY MASTERPIECES #11: The best of three dynamic decades! Cap and Torchy from the 40's—Subby and a truly different super-hero from the 50's — and a far-out fantasy tale for good measure!

MARVEL TALES #11: The first classic team-up (or was it a battle royal?) of Spidey and DD — plus Thor, Waspie, and the ever-torpid Torch! More majestic milestones on the Marvel March to Greatness!

Let's meet 26 more M.M.M.S. members!

Gary Miller, Drumheller, Alta.
[illegible], Portland, Ore.
David Ricks, Grenada, Miss.
Tommy Rainey, Bryan, Tex.
Ronnie Macup, Bryan, Tex.
Mike Moore, Carterville, Ill.
Patrick McGrath, Wollaston, Mass.
Gordon Michaels, Jamaica, N. Y.
James Morack, Valley Station, Ky.
Marvin Marshall, E. Omaha, Neb.
[illegible], Bronx, N. Y.
Cisco Ramirez, Helena, Calif.
Nicholas Noel, Bronx, N. Y.
Gary McSwane, Pasadena, Calif.
Tommy [illegible], [illegible], Ark.
Dave Regent, San Mateo, Calif.
Scott Rogers, Butler, N. J.
Mark Rogers, Butler, N. J.
David Mitofsky, Flushing, N. Y.
Eric Mitofsky, Flushing, N. Y.
Greg Mattson, Lester Prairie, Minn.
Hector Rodriquez, Chicago, Ill.
Willie McNeally, Milwaukee, Wisc.
Lowell Morris, Mission, Tex.
Larry Miller, Gary, Ind.
Sean O'Meara, Chicago, Ill.

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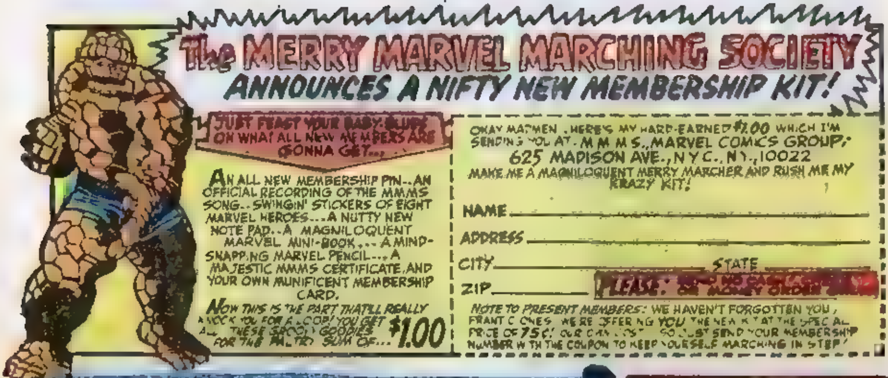

Fantastic Four Fan Page

THE MARVEL COMICS GROUP
SECOND FLOOR 625 MADISON AV

Dear Stan and Jack,

Well, guys, take a bow. You have again put Brand Echh to shame with your magnificent Marvel mastery. F.F. #65 was the best yet. But I'll have to agree with big Benjy that "I'm gittin' fed up with every creep who can afford a far-out costume thinking he can whup the F.F." I mean, any heroes who can polish off a Sentry like that aren't going to be any pushovers. You make it sound as if the F.F. haven't got a chance in the world. Speaking of NOT BRAND ECHH, your first ish was fab. It's the funniest mag I've ever read and it's a 100% success. It sure would be sharp to see what ol' Irv looks like after all these years of faithful service to you madmen. One final thing, who thinks up the Orange One's contemporary comments? You guys in your friendly Bullpen brawls??

Mark McCaffery, 386 East Ave.
Brockport, N. Y.

Us brawl, Mark? Perish the thought! We may fight, battle, or riot—but brawl—never! Anyway, ol' Smiley's the one who dreams up the dizzy dialogue—though it practically writes itself after he looks at the Jolly One's awesome artwork! As for getting a gander at Honest Irv—latch onto a copy of NOT BRAND ECHH #5 (on sale now, natch!) and have yourself a ball!

Dear Stan and Jack,

Many people I know have said some disturbing things about Marvel lately, especially the F.F. These people claim that the realism which reached its peak in earlier F.F. issues has been all but lost now. I agree. What do you see when you open an F.F. book? You see sarcasm and witty remarks. For example, in issue #65, page 10, panel 2, "Stay with us now, tiger, only one fzzitt to go." C'mon, guys—you have a good story going and then you ruin it with stupid remarks. Don't tell me that actual people really talk like this. (I'm only referring to your recent issues—#61 to #66.) Look at Reed Richards. This guy comes up with all the answers when the F.F. is in trouble, makes a fortune selling impossible machines to the army, and manages to keep waiting on his wife as if their honeymoon will last forever. Reed is too good to be true—no man can be this perfect. Much as I'd like to see all men act like Reed does, that is too impossible for men of our century. When you make him perfect, you kill the realism of your character. What I'm driving at is this—you have changed the F.F. from a group of thinking, breathing, emotional people to a group of inhuman freaks with no emotions, problems, or defects. Please change them back to people and make the magazine worthy of the title, "World's Greatest Comic Magazine".

Michael Grecsek, 3040 W. 84th St.
Chicago, Ill. 60652

We're not gonna argue, Mike. For all we know, you may be right! Maybe we have truly gone astray. But we should have known better. We should have been more careful. We should never have written "—Only one more fzzitt to go." For all we know, there may be another "fzzitt" coming up some day! Thanks for straightening us out, Believer! (And, if we seem to be evading the issue, which we obviously are—it's only 'cause we're waiting to learn if the rest of Marveldom Assembled agrees with you—in which case we may all defect to MILLIE THE MODEL!)

Dear Stan and Jack,

Back in F.F. #50 and #51 you introduced a rather interesting character—Coach Thorpe of Metro College. I won't argue with the fact that you called him Thorne in #50, you called him Thorpe in #51, his wife called him Jim in #51, and you called him Sam in #61, the last time you presented him. I would, however, like to hear about him some more. Like did he ever get Wyatt Wingfoot to play for the team? It would seem so, for Wyatt was on the bench in #61, page 13. Since #61, however, you not only have not mentioned Wyatt or Coach Jim/Sam Thorne/Thorpe, but you haven't even mentioned whether or not Johnny is still going to Metro College! Do semesters end 3 months early in Marvel-Land? Or has Torchy become the first dropout (I should say flameout) in the history of super-herodom? Well, I'll leave you with something to think about—how come, if Brand Echh is only number two, you're the ones who try harder??! 'Nuff said!

Don Sampson, 1227 S. Magnolia
Santa Ana, Cal. 92707

Donny, your letter knocked us out! You really caught us with our memories down! You're dead right about everything you said! We never could remember the coach's name, and everytime we had to write it, a deadline was breathing down our collective neck and we were in too much of a rush to look it up! Even more monumental is the problem of Johnny Storm. Unlike our great companion mag, SPIDER-MAN, where the stories proceed at a somewhat more leisurely pace, we've never been able to find enough space to devote to Johnny's campus life. We had big plans for

Now hear this! Please keep all letters no longer than ONE PAGE! Have mercy, mellow ones!

the coach, and Wyatt, and a multitude of other college gimmicks, but the Inhumans, and Doc Doom, and a zillion other villains and unexpected situations just crowded them out. So, here we are — with a college student who doesn't have time for college, and a brand new No-Prize winging its way to a Keeper of the Faith who most certainly deserves it!

Dear Stan and Jack,

First of all I would like to tell you how great issue #66 was. I don't see how you do it. Each issue surpasses the last by a mile. Now don't think this is a complaint, but on page 15, panels 2 and 3, isn't Ben holding the same flowers the Silver Surfer gave him in issue #55? These were so he could make up with Alicia. Now I figured out how he did it. You see, Alicia liked the first batch of flowers so much that Ben had Surfy put a special device in his room. When Ben operates it, Surfy gets a message and quickly teleports a bunch of flowers to Ben. This, of course, is for use only when Ben has to make up with Alicia. Until the Kree hold a party and invite the F.F., make mine Rex Forbush. I mean Imperious Irving. . . oh, well, you know what I mean.

Jeff Stasi, 42 Greenwood Rd.
Murray Hill, N. J. 07971

Sure, Jeff! You mean Who Says This Isn't The Marvel Age of Aunt Petunia? But, about Ben's flowers — we suspect they had more to do with Jolly Jack Kirby than the Silver Surfer. We tried to ask the King about it, but he wouldn't let us get close enough to him — he said they give him hay fever! So we'll just have to accept your explanation, tiger — and will inscribe it for posterity in the permanent archives of Yancy Street!

Dear Stan and Jack,

Jeez! Inca legends about a South Sea Island!? Well, maybe, if they came from China and crossed the sea. But READING the legends on the "ancient tablets"? As Yancy Street's favorite would say, "That sinks it!" The Incas had no written language!! But don't get me wrong — I'm not complaining. Thanks to Marvel I can sit back and amaze friends with statements like "Did you know that the sound of the earth's core breaking is Sklunng?" or "Fooom is often pronounced Foom!" Also, let's see the Black Panther in action again. I can't see a loner like him as a member of a group. His powers of stealth would be best used solo. Finally, thought I'd mention that Spidey is big here in Peru. "Hombre Araña" is the hero of Pensacola — the Barrio where I live. I have a photo which shows my Spidey wall poster which I left at home. The kids here saw it and went wild. Spidey is the most popular super one but many other Bullpen greats are sold here in translated versions. World conquest is within our grasp! 'Nuff said? Not 'nuff will ever be said in praise of the Marvel Madmen who, however lacking in knowledge of Inca history and folklore, are never lacking in imagination and nerve. So hang loose, heroes — yes, any man is a hero who fights for freedom, justice, and brotherhood! "So long as we cherish liberty . . . so long as the bitter weed of tyranny can never take root upon our shores . . . then all of us are heroes . . . and the dream which is America will long endure." And make mine Forbush!!

Dale Miller, Cuerpo de Paz (U.S. Peace Corps)
Carlos de los Heros 408, Chimbote, Peru

We don't know about Forbush, Dale, but we're making yours a complimentary subscription to the FF — because there really are heroes left in this mixed-up world of ours, and for our dough, the great guys and gals in Uncle Sammy's Peace Corps come mighty close to heading the list. Vaya con Dios, venerated one!

Dear Stan and Jack,

"Man what a cover!" is the first thing that came to my mind when I saw F.F. #66. The portrayal of Alicia was the best I've ever seen in any comic mag. I especially liked the way you made her seem helpless, yet giving the reader the impression that she's also very capable of taking care of herself. Give her a more active role in future F.F. stories. The Thing was superb and there should never be any change in him. I think Sue should use her powers more often, and Reed should use his with more variety. Keep the majestic modern-mystery behind your marvelous Marvel Masterpieces. Until Mr. Forbush shows his face, mine is Marvel.

Lane Bailey, P.O. Box 801
Princeton, W. Va. 24740

See? We're publishing your letter, Lane, to prove to the scoffers out there in the real world that we don't only print complimentary comments, but we take 'em as we get 'em. Even a penetratingly critical letter such as yours can make its way to the summit of letterdom here in Marvel-land! You've asked us to give Alicia a more active role in future FF yarns. That implies you're dissatisfied with the role she's been playing. That indicates we've struck out in our treatment of Miss Masters. That indicates we don't even know how to write about our own characters! In other words, you're calling us failures! But we still love ya! That's how big-hearted *we* are!

Dear Stan and Jack,

Alright, alright, we've had it — the time of truth has come. We Marine followers of the mighty Marvel Masterpieces demand action. What kind of action, you ask? We are referring to the greatest hero in comicdom history, none other than Bashful Ben Grimm — the Thing. We have sat back and watched with wonderment the cruel indignities our hero has suffered. Ben has seen Johnny get Crystal back and Reed and Sue get married. To top it off, you always find a way to have Ben suffer the most while fighting his foes. We've got to give Ben his due — at least he has a sense of humor. Are you ready for it? Now we're going to give it to ya!! We want to see more of Alicia. Everyone else's girl is in there except ol' Benny's. And if you don't . . . well, you know how we Marines get upset when we don't get our way. Also, we had better see more of blue-eyed Ben clobbering some nasty old villains. We're getting tired of seeing Reed or Match-head always finishing them off. Now we don't think that's too much to ask for, do you?? Thank you for your time, and we do hope you consider our, shall we say, proposals.

Dana Smith & Chris Dunny c/o L/Cpl. Dana Smith,
2234555 1st Mar. Div. 1st Bn. 5th Mar. H&S Co. M.T.
c/o FPO, San Francisco, Cal. 96602 (Viet Nam)

Hooo boy! If you were unhappy about Benjy's role in past issues, gyrenes — what'll you think when you see what's happening to him NOW? But before you start drawing up your battle plans, stay with us for a while longer — sooner or later something good HAS to happen to Blue Eyes! Anyway, we've really done him the best favor of all, haven't we? — We've saved him from belonging to Brand Echh! And if that's not enough, maybe the surprise subscription we're sending you will make us buddies again. (Or, Who Says This Isn't The Marvel Age of Bare-Faced Bribery?) Hang in there, heroes — and all the best from your batty Bullpen!

NEXT ISH: We might as well face it! It looks as though the FANTASTIC FOUR may soon become the FANTASTIC ONE if a bitter, bludgeoning Benjamin J. Grimm has his way! We don't have to tell you of the block-busting battles which will soon burst into life before you on these very pages—or of the dazzling drama, the spell-binding suspense, or the spine-tingling surprises in store for you! No, we don't have to tell you, but we're not takin' any chances, frantic one! FANTASTIC FOUR #70 is so great that we'll cry ourselves to sleep if you miss it—and you wouldn't want our pointy little heads resting on wet pillows, wouldja? So be here bright and early when our next fabulous ish goes on sale—and until then, face front! We *know* where we've been — but the excitement's up ahead! THINK MARVEL!

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Carl Koch was an 18 year old apprentice in a Chicago art studio when he enrolled. Today he prepares ads for such companies as General Motors and Firestone—has won five gold medals.

Howard Sanden of Minneapolis took the Course while still in high school. He is now a successful artist —last year he and his wife traveled through Europe and the Middle East on important art assignments.

Paul Sullivan enrolled at 14. His Famous Artists training helped him work his way through college.

Stan Bowen, father of three children, was trapped in a dull, low-paying job. By studying with FAS he became a sought-after illustrator, has opened his own studio.

With Famous Artists training Rosemary Roberts was hired by a top department store as an artist—with a big chance to advance.

Oregon housewife Helen Tryk lives 150 miles from the nearest big city. But she does fashion illustration, has her own studio, runs an art workshop, does portraits.

A Plan to Help Others

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He suggested a new kind of art school—a home study art school—that would give talented people the best professional art training, no matter where they live.

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